

Hinsdell House
Elgin, Illinois
Kane Co

HABS 26-10
HABS
ILL
45-ELG,
+

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 26

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, Jr., District Officer
Room 404, No. 520 No. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

HABS
ILL,
45-Elg,
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HINSDALL HOUSE
KANE COUNTY
ELGIN, ILLINOIS

DISTRICT NO. 26
NORTHERN ILLINOIS

EARL H. REED, JR.
DISTRICT OFFICER

Project No. 26-10

By Walter T. Stockton

SOURCE

Ernest
J. Sund,
Elgin, Ill.
Contractor

Andreas
History
of
Cook
County

The brick portion was built by a retired farmer in 1845 and is situated in the center of the City of Elgin, Ill. The oldest portion is very probably the frame section at the south, which dates from sometime prior to 1845. In 1926 considerable remodeling was done to this section, including raising the 1st floor ceiling, adding an upper story, providing new frames and sash and plastering the interior. However, it was discovered that the exterior walls were originally constructed of oak supports about 2' 0" on centers. These supports were round logs with the outer and inner sides adzed to a flat surface to receive the sheathing which was on the inside. It is doubtful at what date the exterior clapboarding was applied. The lath used was the split board type and the joists were 4" x 6" oak, spaced unevenly.

The bricks are 7½" x 3½" x 2", of pinkish-red color.

The roof framing here consists of heavy oak trusses. The foundations of both frame and brick walls are rubble composed of small boulders 3" - 6" in diameter.

Alterations in the brick section made in 1926 consist of building the closet under the stairs in the entrance hall, constructing the double window on the 2nd floor west, and adding the circular headed book-cases on each side. Alterations in 1928 consist of removing a partition running north and south in the center of the present large north-east, 1st floor bedroom and adding the bath. All interior wood cornices were added about 1930.

The muntins were removed from all lower sash at some unknown date, but both sash are still operated by the spring pin method without weights.

The frame porch at the north front was erected shortly prior to 1900, probably replacing a former porch as the door onto it from the living room is evidently original.

The south kitchen porch was added in 1926 and the garage in 1927.

The present owner is Mr. J.E. Dorman, who bought the property from Mrs. Hinsdell, who died in 1928. The present occupant is her son D.W. Dorman.

By Walter T. Stockton

January 21, 1934

Approved Samuel M. Mealy
District Officer